

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the time and courtesy extended by Examiner Blanco during the March 1, 2006 telephone interview with Applicants' representative, James Folker. During the interview, the following issues were discussed.

First, Applicants' representative argued that the Examiner improperly denied entry of Amendment B (which included a proposed amendment to Claim 16, which is repeated in this amendment). In the Advisory Action, the Examiner denied entry of the amendment asserting that it does not materially reduce or simplify the issues for appeal. In response, Applicants' representative argued that the proposed amendment to Claim 16 should be entered because the only claim amendment being proposed relates to a correction of an antecedent basis problem in Claim 16. Thus, the amendment to Claim 16 actually does reduce and simplify the issues for appeal because it eliminates one of the rejections --the §112 rejection. Further, since amending Claim 16 to correct the antecedent basis issue does not raise a new issue that requires further search or consideration, Applicants respectfully submit that entry of this After-Final Amendment is proper, and such entry and consideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as applied to amended Claim 16.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated stated that the term “the proximal body” of line 4 of Claim 16 lacks proper antecedent basis. In response, Applicants have amended independent Claim 16, line 4, to refer to “a proximal body” (emphasis added). Further, since the proximal body is now being introduced in line 4, line 5 has also been amended to refer to “the” proximal body. Since the claims, as amended, provide proper antecedent basis, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §112, second paragraph, rejection.

During the interview, the following rejection was discussed: Claims 9, 10, 13-19, 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,692,530 to Doubler et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that the Doubler et al. reference fails to disclose all of the features of the present invention. More specifically, with regard to independent Claim 9, Applicants respectfully submit that the Doubler et al. reference fails to disclose a modular hip prosthesis that includes, *inter alia*, a proximal body that is rotationally and axially adjustable “about the stem.” With regard to independent Claim 16, Applicants respectfully submit that the Doubler et al. reference fails to disclose a modular hip prosthesis that includes, *inter alia*, a proximal body that is “positioned around the stem.” During the interview, the Examiner agreed that this rejection was overcome, for the reasons set forth below, unless the Examiner discovers a definition of the term “about” that contradicts that set forth below.

One example of an embodiment of the prosthesis defined in independent Claims 9 and 16 is shown in Applicants' Figures 1 and 2, which embodiment includes proximal body 14 and stem 12. In this embodiment, the proximal body includes a bore 86 (Figure 6B) so that it can be positioned around (or "about") the stem 12, as shown in Applicants' Figure 2.

In the device of Doubler et al., the Examiner equated jack screw 20 of Figures 1 and 4-6 with the claimed proximal body, and he equated rod 11 with the claimed stem. *See* December 1, 205 Office Action, page 3, paragraph 7, line 4-5. As can be seen in Figure 1a of the Doubler et al. reference, member 20 is positioned within member 11. Accordingly, as discussed during the interview, member 20 cannot be considered as the claimed proximal body of independent Claim 9 because it is not rotationally and axially adjustable "about the stem [11]." The most relevant definition of the term "about" in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines the term as meaning "in a circle around : on every side of : around." *See* Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, Merriam -Webster Incorporated, Springfield, Massachusetts, page 3, 1994 (copy enclosed). Further, the context of the term "about" in Claim 9 also supports this interpretation because it refers to the proximal body being rotatable "about" the stem, which means that the proximal body is around the stem, and not that the stem is around the proximal body. Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §102(b) rejection of independent Claim 9 and associated dependent Claims 10 13-15 and 21.

With regard to dependent Claim 10, Applicants also separately traverse this §102(b) rejection under Doubler et al. because the Doubler et al. reference fails to disclose that the proximal body includes “a threaded section located along an internal longitudinal bore.” Applicant’s Figure 6B shows one example of a proximal body (14) that includes threaded section 92 along an internal longitudinal bore 86, as recited in Claim 10. In contrast, in the device of Doubler et al., jack screw 20 includes a threaded section 51 on an external surface (see Figure 1A), and therefore lacks a threaded section on an internal bore, as defined in Claim 10. Accordingly, for this reason also, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §102(b) rejection of Claim 10 under Doubler et al.

With regard to independent Claim 16, the device of Doubler et al. lacks the claimed proximal body that is “positioned around the stem,” as discussed during the interview. As mentioned above, jack screw 10 of Doubler et al., is positioned within stem 11, instead of being positioned “around” the stem, as defined in Claim 16. Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §102(b) rejection of independent Claim 16 and associated dependent Claims 17-19 and 22.

During the interview, the following additional rejection was also discussed: Claims 1, 2 and 4-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent Application Publication No. 204/0122525 to Daniels et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Daniels et al. reference fails to disclose all of the features of the present invention. More specifically, the Daniels et al. reference

fails to disclose both the “expansible collet” and the locking member having threads to “lock the proximal body and collet together,” as defined in independent Claim 1. With regard to independent Claim 9, the Daniels et al. reference fails to disclose the “flexible sleeve.” Finally, with regard to independent Claim 16, the Daniels et al. reference fails to disclose the “sleeve [that is] positionable between the stem and the proximal body.”

With regard to independent Claim 1, the Daniels et al. reference fails to disclose both the “expansible collet” and the locking member having threads to “lock the proximal body and collet together.” First, the Examiner equated either: (1) the entire taper component 90, or (2) the distal portion of component 90 with the claimed “expansible collet.” *See December 1, 2005 Office Action, page 4, paragraph 9, line 18-20.* One example of an embodiment of the “expansible collet” of Claim 1 is represented by member 18 of Applicants’ Figures 1 and 7A. As can be seen in these figures, member 18 is expansible due to longitudinal slots 118. In contrast, neither the distal end portion nor the entirety of component 90 of Daniels et al. is disclosed as being able to be expanded. During the interview, the Examiner stated that he would review the Daniels et al. reference to determine whether component 90 was “expansible.” Since Applicants were unable to find any disclosure or suggestion that component 90 was “expansible,” withdrawal of this §102(e) rejection of independent Claim 1 and associated dependent Claims 2 and 4-8 under Daniels et al. is requested.

Additionally, the Daniels et al. reference also fails to disclose the claimed locking member having threads “to lock the proximal body and collet together” as also

defined in independent Claim 1, and as discussed during the interview. In the Examiner's first interpretation, he equated member 94 of Figure 10 of Daniels et al. with the claimed "locking member." *See* December 1, 2005 Office Action, page 4, paragraph 9, line 21-22. However, although member 94 does have threads, these threads are not used to lock the proximal body (proximal portion of member 90) and the collet (the distal portion of member 90) together. Instead, both the proximal and the distal portion of member 90 are already formed as a single component, and the threads of member 94 merely lock member 94 and member 90 together.

In the Examiner's second interpretation, he appears to have equated interdigitating surface 124 of Figure 12 with the claimed locking member. However, the interdigitating surface, which is essentially a surface with radially extending alternating slots/projections, does not have "threads," as defined in Claim 1. Further, member 124 does not lock the proximal body (members 94 and 106) and the collet (member 90) together. Instead, member 124 merely prevents relative rotation between itself and member 106.

Thus, under either the first or the second interpretation, the locking member of Claim 1 is not disclosed in the Daniels et al. reference. Accordingly, for this reason also, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §102(e) rejection of independent Claim 1 and associated dependent Claims 2 and 4-8 under Daniels et al.

With regard to independent Claim 9, the Daniels et al. reference lacks the claimed "flexible sleeve," one example of which is represented by sleeve (or collet) 18 of Applicants' Figures 1 and 7A. In the preferred embodiment, sleeve 18 obtains its flexibility

from slots 108 of Applicants' Figure 7A (however, other means of flexibility are also contemplated as being within the scope of the invention). None of the portions of member 90 (which the Examiner appears to have equated with the claimed sleeve) of the Daniels et al. reference are disclosed as being "flexible." Accordingly, for at least this reason, withdrawal of this §102(e) rejection of Claim 9 and associated dependent Claims 10-15 and 21 is respectfully requested.

With regard to independent Claim 16, the Daniels et al. reference lacks the claimed sleeve that is "positionable between the stem and the proximal body," as discussed during the interview. One example of Applicants' sleeve is represented by sleeve (or collet) 18, as shown in Applicants' Figure 2. As can be seen in this figure, sleeve 18 is radially between stem 12 and proximal body 14 (which is shown in cross-section). In contrast, under the Examiner's first interpretation of Daniels et al., the distal portion of member 90 (which the Examiner appears to have equated with the claimed sleeve) is not between stem 18 and the proximal portion of member 90. Additionally, using the Examiner's second interpretation, member 90 is not between stem 18 and members 94/106. In fact, members 94/106 are actually between member 90 and stem 18. Accordingly, for at least this reason, withdrawal of this §102(e) rejection of Claim 16 and associated dependent Claims 17-205 and 22 is respectfully requested.

Applicants also separately traverse the §102(e) rejection of dependent Claims 19 and 20 under Daniels et al. Applicants respectfully submit that member 90, or even the distal portion thereof, is not "radially flexible" as defined in Claim 19, nor does it include "a

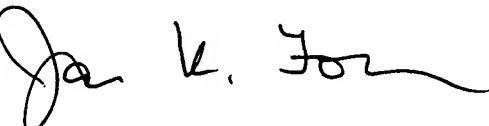
plurality of longitudinal slots" as defined in Claim 20. Accordingly, for these reasons also, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection of dependent Claims 19 and 20 under Daniels et al.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would aid in the prosecution of the application, or that outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By


James K. Folker

Registration No. 37,538

March 1, 2006

Suite 2500
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080

Customer No. 24978

P:\DOCS\2602\73747\A07299.DOC



Merriam- Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

TENTH EDITION

Merriam-Webster, Incorporated
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



A GENUINE MERRIAM-WEBSTER

The name *Webster* alone is no guarantee of excellence. It is used by a number of publishers and may serve mainly to mislead an unwary buyer.

Merriam-Webster™ is the name you should look for when you consider the purchase of dictionaries or other fine reference books. It carries the reputation of a company that has been publishing since 1831 and is your assurance of quality and authority.

Copyright © 1994 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Philippines Copyright 1994 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Main entry under title:

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. — 10th ed.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-87779-708-0 (unindexed). — ISBN 0-87779-709-9 (indexed).
— ISBN 0-87779-710-2 (deluxe). — ISBN 0-87779-707-2 (laminated cover).

1. English language—Dictionaries.

PE1628.M36 1994

423—dc20

93-32603

CIP

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary, Tenth Edition principal copyright 1993

COLLEGIATE is a registered trademark of Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

All rights reserved. No part of this book covered by the copyrights hereon may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems—without written permission of the publisher.

Made in the United States of America

9101112RMcN94

ah-la-tion \-ə-'blā-shən\ n (15c) : the process of ablating; as a : surgical removal b : loss of a part (as ice from a glacier or the outside of a nose cone) by melting or vaporization
ab-la-tive \'-ə-blā-tiv\ adj (15c) : of, relating to, or constituting a grammatical case expressing typically the relations of separation and source and also frequently such relations as cause or instrument — **ablative n**
ab-la-tive \'-ə-blā-tiv\ adj (ca. 1569) 1 : of or relating to ablation 2 : tending to ablate (as material on a nose cone) — **ab-la-tive-ly** adv
ablative absolute \'-ə-blā-tiv\ n (ca. 1828) : a construction in Latin in which a noun or pronoun and its adjunct both in the ablative case form together an adverbial phrase expressing generally the time, cause, or an attendant circumstance of an action
ab-laut \'-ə-blaut, '-ə-'blōt\ n [G. fr. *ab* away from + *Laut* sound] (1849) : a systematic variation of vowels in the same root or affix or in related roots or affixes esp. in the Indo-European languages that is usu. paralleled by differences in use or meaning (as in *sing*, *sang*, *sung*, *song*)
ablaze \'-ə-blāz\ adj or adv (1801) 1 : being on fire 2 : radiant with light or emotion (his face all ~ with excitement —Bram Stoker)
able \'-ə-bləl\ adj **abler** \'-bəl-ər\; **ablest** \'-bəl-əst\ [ME. fr. *fr. L* *abilis*, *ibilis*, fr. *-a-*, *-i-*, verb stem vowels + *-bilis* capable or worthy of] 1 : capable of, fit for, or worthy of (being so acted upon or toward) — chiefly in adjectives derived from verbs (*breakable*, *collectible*) 2 : tending, given, or liable to (agreeable), (perishable) — **ably** also **ibly** adv **suffix**
able-bodied \'-ə-bəl'-bādēd\ adj (ca. 1622) : having a sound strong body
able-bodied seaman n (ca. 1909) : ABLE SEAMAN
able seaman n (1702) : an experienced deck-department seaman qualified to perform routine duties at sea
abloom \'-ə-blūm\ adj (1855) : abounding with blooms : BLOOMING (parks ~ with roses)
ablut-ed \'-ə-blū-təd, -ə-'blū-təd\ adj [back-formation fr. *ablution*] (1650) : washed clean
ab-lu-tion \'-ə-blū-shən, -ə-'lū-\ n [ME. fr. MF or L *MF*, fr. L *ablution-, ablutiō-*, fr. *abluere* to wash away, fr. *ab-* + *luere* to wash; akin to L *lavare* to wash — more at *LYE*] (1533) 1 a : the washing of one's body or part of it (as in a religious rite) b *pl* : the act or action of bathing 2 *pl Brit.* : a building housing bathing and toilet facilities on a military base — **ab-lu-tion-ary** \'-shō-nər-ē\ adj
ABM \'-ə-(bē-)ēm\ n, pl ABMs \'-ēmz\ (1963) : ANTIBALISTIC MISSILE
ab-na-ki \'-ə-nā-kē\ var. of ABENAKI
ab-negate \'-ə-nē-gāt\ vt -gat-ed; -gat-ing [back-formation fr. *abnegation*] (1623) 1 : DENY, RENOUNCE (*abnegated their God*) 2 : SUR_RENDER, RELINQUISH (*abnegated her powers*) — **ab-ne-ga-tor** \'-gā-tōr\ n
ab-ne-ga-tion \'-ə-nē-gā-shən\ n [LL *abnegation-, abnegatio*, fr. L *abnegare* to refute, fr. *ab-* + *negare* to deny — more at NEGATE] (14c) 3 : DENIAL; esp.: SELF-DENIAL
ab-nor-mal \'-ə-nōr-məl\; ab-'nōr-məl\ adj [alter. of F *anormal*, fr. ML *anormalis*, fr. L *a-* + LL *normalis* normal] (ca. 1836) : deviating from the normal or average : UNUSUAL, EXCEPTIONAL (~ behavior) — **ab-nor-mal-ly** \'-mə-lē\ adv
abnormal n (1912) : an abnormal person
abnor-mal-i-ty \'-ə-nōr-māl-tē, -(-nōr-)ē\ n, pl -ties (1854) 1 : the quality or state of being abnormal 2 : something abnormal
abnormal psychology n (ca. 1903) : a branch of psychology concerned with mental and emotional disorders (as neuroses, psychoses, and mental deficiency) and with certain incompletely understood normal phenomena (as dreams and hypnosis)
ab \'-ə-(ō)bōl\ n, pl ab-os (1908) **Austral.** : ABORIGINE — often used disparagingly
aboard \'-ə-bōrd, -'bōrd\ adj or adv (14c) 1 : ALONGSIDE 2 a : on, onto, or within a vehicle (as a car or ship) b : in or into a group, association, or organization (her second promotion since coming ~) 3 : baseball : on base
aboard prep (15c) : ON, ONTO, WITHIN (go ~ ship) (~ a plane)
ABO blood group \'-ə-(ō)bē-'ō-\ n (1949) : any of the four blood groups A, B, AB, and O comprising the ABO system
abode \'-ə-bōd\ n [ME *abod*, fr. *aboden* to abide] (13c) 1 : obs : WAIT, DELAY 2 : a temporary stay : SOJOURN 3 : the place where one abides : HOME
aboil \'-ə-bōl(ə)bōl\ adj or adv (1810) 1 : being at the boiling point : BOILING 2 : intensely excited or stirred up (the meeting was ~ with controversy)
abol-ish \'-ə-bā-lish\ vt [ME *abolissen*, fr. MF *aboliss-*, stem of *abolir*, fr. L *abolēre*; prob. akin to *adolescere* to grow up — more at ADULT] (15c) 1 : to end the observance or effect of : ANNUL 2 : DESTROY — **abol-ish-able** \'-li-shə-bōl\ adj — **abol-ish-er** n — **abol-ish-ment** \'-mēnt\ n
ab-o-li-tion \'-ə-bō-'li-shən\ n [MF, fr. L *abolition-, abolitio*, fr. *abolēre*] (1529) 1 : the act of abolishing : the state of being abolished 2 : the abolishing of slavery — **ab-o-li-tion-ary** \'-li-shən-ər-ē\ adj
ab-o-li-tion-ism \'-li-shən-iz'm\ n (1808) : principles or measures fostering abolition esp. of slavery — **ab-o-li-tion-ist** \'-ist\ n or adj
ab-oma-sum \'-ə-bō-'mā-sūm\ n, pl -sa 'səl\ [NL, fr. L *ab-* + *omsum* ox's tripe] (ca. 1706) : the fourth compartment of the ruminant stomach that follows the omasum and has a true digestive function — compare RUMEN, RETICULUM — **ab-oma-sal** \'-səl\ adj
A-bomb \'-ā-bām\ n (1945) : ATOMIC BOMB 1
abom-i-na-ble \'-ə-bām-nə-bəl, -'bām-əbəl\ adj (14c) 1 : worthy of or causing disgust or hatred : DETESTABLE (the ~ treatment of the poor) 2 : quite disagreeable or unpleasant (~ weather) — **abom-i-na-bly** \'-bli-tē\ adv
abominable snow-man \'-snō-mən, -mən\ n, often cap **A&S** (1921) : a mysterious creature with human or apelike characteristics reported to exist in the high Himalayas — called also *yeti*
abom-i-nate \'-ə-bām-nāt\ vt -nat-ed; -nat-ing [L *abominatus*, pp. of *abominari*, lit., to deprecate as an ill omen, fr. *ab-* + *omin-*, omen omen] (1644) : to hate or loathe intensely : ABHOR **syn** see HATE — **abom-i-na-tor** \'-nā-tōr\ n
abom-i-na-tion \'-ə-bām-nā-shən\ n (14c) 1 : something abominable 2 : extreme disgust and hatred : LOATHING
ab-oral \'-ə-bōr-əl, -'bōr-\ adj (1857) : situated opposite to or away from the mouth (a sea urchin's ~ surface) — **ab-oral-ly** \'-lē\ adv
ab-orig-i-nal \'-ə-bōr'-ij-nəl, -'ri-jə-nəl\ adj (1667) 1 : being the first or earliest known of its kind present in a region (~ forests) (~ rocks) 2 a : of or relating to aborigines b *often cap* : of or relating to the indigenous peoples of Australia **syn** see NATIVE — **ab-orig-i-nal-ly** \'-lē\ adv
aboriginal n (1767) 1 : ABORIGINE 2 *often cap* : ABORIGINE 2
ab-orig-i-ne \'-ə-bōr'-ij-nē, -'ri-jə-nē\ n [L *aborigines*, pl. fr. *ab origine* from the beginning] (1533) 1 : an aboriginal inhabitant esp. as contrasted with an invading or colonizing people 2 *often cap* : a member of any of the indigenous peoples of Australia
aborn-ing \'-ə-bōr-nīng\ adj [*'a-* + E dial. *borning* (birth)] (1916) : while being born or produced (a resolution that died ~)
aborning adj (1943) : being born or produced (~ the *fiascos*)
abort \'-ə-bōrt\ vb [L *abortus*, pp. of *aboriri* to miscarry, fr. *ab-* + *oriri* to rise, be born — more at ORIENT] vi (1580) 1 : to bring forth premature or stillborn offspring 2 : to become checked in development so as to degenerate or remain rudimentary ~ vi 1 a : to induce the abortion of or give birth to prematurely b : to terminate the pregnancy of before term 2 a : to terminate prematurely : CANCEL (~ a project) (~ a spaceship) b : to stop in the early stages (~ a disease) — **abort-er** n
abорт n (1944) : the premature termination of a flight (as of an aircraft or spacecraft), a mission, or an action or procedure relating to a flight (~ a launch ~)
abor-ti-facient \'-ə-bōr-ti-fāshənt\ n (1873) : an agent (as a drug) that induces abortion — **abortifacient** adj
abortion \'-ə-bōr-shən\ n (1547) 1 : the termination of a pregnancy after, accompanied by, resulting in, or closely followed by the death of the embryo or fetus: as a : spontaneous expulsion of a human fetus during the first 12 weeks of gestation — compare MISCARRIAGE b : induced expulsion of a human fetus c : expulsion of a fetus by a domestic animal often due to infection at any time before completion of pregnancy — compare CONTAGIOUS ABORTION 2 : MONSTROSITY 3 : arrest of development (as of a part or process) resulting in imperfection; also: a result of such arrest
abor-tion-ist \'-shō-nəst\ n (1871) : one who induces abortions
abor-tive \'-ə-bōr-tiv\ adj (14c) 1 : *obs* : prematurely born 2 : FRUITLESS, UNSUCCESSFUL 3 : imperfectly formed or developed 4 : tending to cut short — **abor-tive-ly** adv — **abor-tive-ness** n
ABO system \'-ə-(ō)bē-'ō-\ n (1944) : the basic system of antigens of human blood behaving in heredity as an allelic unit to produce any of the ABO blood groups
abound \'-ə-bōund\ vt [ME. fr. *abonder*, fr. L *abundare*, fr. *ab-* + *unda* wave — more at WATER] (14c) 1 : to be present in large numbers or in great quantity : be prevalent 2 : to be copiously supplied (life ~ed in mysteries —Norman Mailer) (institutions ~ with evidence of his success —Johns Hopkins Mag.)
about \'-ə-bōut\ adv [ME. fr. OE *abūtan*, fr. 'a- + *būtan* outside — more at BUT] (bef. 12c) 1 a : reasonably close to (~ a year ago) b : ALMOST (~ starved) c : on the verge of — usu used with *be* and a following infinitive (is ~ to join the army); used with a negative to express intention or determination (not ~ to quit) 2 : on all sides : AROUND 3 a : in rotation b : around the outside 4 : HERE AND THERE 5 : in the vicinity : NEAR 6 : in succession : ALTERNATELY (turn ~ is fair play) 7 : in the opposite direction (face ~) (the other way ~)
about prep (bef. 12c) 1 : in a circle around : on every side of : AROUND 2 a : in the immediate neighborhood of : NEAR b : on or near the person of c : in the makeup of (a mature wisdom ~ him) d : at the command of (has his wits ~ him) 3 : engaged in (act as if they know what they're ~ —T. S. Matthews) 4 a : with regard to : CONCERNING b : concerned with c : fundamentally concerned with or directed toward (poker is ~ money —David Mamet) 5 : over or in different parts of
about adj (1815) 1 : moving from place to place; specif: being out of bed. 2 : AROUND 2
about-face \'-ə-bōut-'fās\ n [fr. the imper. phrase about face] (1861) 1 : a 180° turn to the right from the position of attention 2 : a reversal of direction 3 : a reversal of attitude, behavior, or point of view — **about-face** vi
about-turn \'-tōrn\ n (1893) **Brir**: ABOUT-FACE
above \'-ə-bōv\ adv [ME fr. OE *abufan*, fr. a- + *busan* above, fr. be- + *ufan* above; akin to OE *over* off] (bef. 12c) 1 a : in the sky : OVERHEAD b : in or to heaven 2 a : in or to a higher place b : higher on the same page or on a preceding page c : UPSTAIRS d : above zero (10 degrees ~) 3 : in or to a higher rank or number (30 and ~) 4 *archaic* : in addition : BESIDES 5 : UPSTAGE
above prep (bef. 12c) 1 : in or to a higher place than : OVER 2 a : superior to (as in rank, quality, or degree) b : out of reach of c : in preference to d : too proud or honorable to stoop to 3 : exceeding in number, quantity, or size : more than 4 : as distinct from and in addition to (heard the whistle ~ the roar of the crowd)
above n, pl above (13c) 1 a : something that is above b : a person whose name is written above 2 a : a higher authority b : HEAVEN usage Although still objected to by some, the use of *above* as a noun in sense 1a (*none of the above*) (*the above* is Theseus's opinion —William Blake) and as an adjective (*without the above* reserve —O. W. Holmes †1935) (*I was brought up on the above words —Viscount Montgomery*) has been long established as standard.
above adj (1604) : written or discussed higher on the same page or on a preceding page *usage* see ABOVE

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- BLACK BORDERS**
- IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.